

at least two reinforcing laminated layers of substantially unidirectional substantially parallel fibers having predominant orientations that form an angle with said sides of said panel;

said angle between said predominant fiber orientation and the longer side of said panel being between about 55-75°; and

approximately one-half of said reinforcing layers of said panel forming a + angle between about 55-75°, and approximately one-half of said reinforcing layers forming a - angle between about 55-75°, with respect to said longer side of said panel, wherein said panel, when mounted in said vessel wall, is laterally loaded by fluid pressure.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. In view of the restriction requirement, claims 24 to 29 have been canceled without prejudice.

The rejection of claims 10 to 23 as being obvious over Harpell (USP 5,198,280) is traversed. Further, claim 10 has been amended to make clear that the recited panel is mountable in a vessel wall to be laterally loaded by fluid pressure.

Harpell discloses fabric for a bulletproof vest. The statement in the Action that Harpell discloses a structural panel for use in a vehicle references the description in Harpell of the prior art at column 1, lines 15-18. There is no teaching or suggestion in Harpell that the "flexible fibrous layers" are useful as a structural member, such as a